



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
**Department of Health Services**



Governor

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Rulemaking  
Title 17, California Code of Regulations

**SUBJECT:** Organized Camps, R-15-97

**PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS:** Notice is hereby given that the California Department of Health Services will conduct written public proceedings, during which time any interested person or such person's duly authorized representative may present statements, arguments or contentions (all of which are hereinafter referred to as comments) relevant to the action described in this notice.

**INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW:**

The Department of Health Services (Department) is authorized to adopt regulations for organized camps pursuant to Health and Safety Code (H&S Code) section 18897.2.

The existing organized camp regulations, sections 30700 through 30753, inclusive, of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations, establish minimum standards for organized camps and regulate the operation of these camps. The Department is proposing adoption of new organized camp regulations and the amendment or repeal of existing organized camp regulations.

This proposal is made upon recommendation of the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health and the California Camping Advisory Council. The Council represents all classifications of organized camping in California to whom the regulations apply. The American Camp Association's Accreditation Standards for Camp Programs and Services (2007 edition) were considered in the development of this regulatory proposal as permitted in H&S Code section 18897.2.

The proposed regulations would adopt new sections 30704, 30712, and 30713; amend sections 30700, 30701, 30702, 30703, 30710, 30711, 30714, 30720, 30721, 30722, 30723, 30730, 30735, 30736, 30740, 30741, 30750, 30751, 30752, and 30753; and repeal sections 30715, 30724, and 30734.1 in Title 17, California Code of Regulations, in order to update existing organized camping regulations to reflect current health and safety practice standards and organized camping operations.

Documents incorporated by reference: The following documents are incorporated as reference as they would be too cumbersome, unduly expensive, or impractical to publish these documents into regulation.

- Section HR-Human Resources, Standard HR-4 Staff Screening, Accreditation Standards for Camp Programs and Services (2007 Edition), published by American Camp Association, Martinsville, Indiana, pages 149 through 150.
- The program description sections of the Accreditation Standards for Camp Programs and Services (2007 Edition), the American Camp Association, identified as:
  - 1) PD Program – “Design and Activities”, pages 167 through 200
  - 2) PA Program – “Aquatics”, pages 201 through 238
  - 3) PC Program – “Adventure/Challenge”, pages 239 through 258
  - 4) PH Program - “Horseback Riding”, pages 259 through 274
  - 5) PT Program - “Trip and Travel”, pages 275 through 298
- California Bulletin 74-81 (December 1981), “Well Water Standards”, Chapter II and Appendices A, B, and C published by the Department of Water Resources, State of California Resources Agency.
- California Bulletin 74-90 (June 1991), “Well Water Standards” published by the Department of Water Resources, State of California Resources Agency.
- Public Utilities Commission, General Order No. 95 (January 2006), “Rules for Overhead Electrical Line Construction”.

Document relied upon: Accreditation Standards for Camp Programs and Services, American Camp Association (2007 Edition).

AUTHORITY: Sections 18897.2 and 100275, Health and Safety Code.

REFERENCE: Section 18897.2 and 18897.6, Health and Safety Code.

COMMENTS: Any written comments pertaining to these regulations, regardless of the method of transmittal, must be received by the Office of Regulations by 5 p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_, which is hereby designated as the close of the written comment period. Comments received after this date will not be considered timely. Persons wishing to use the California Relay Service may do so at no cost. The telephone numbers for accessing this service are: 1-800-735-2929, if you have a TDD; or 1-800-735-2922, if you do not have a TDD. Written comments may be submitted as follows:

1. By mail or hand-delivered to the Office of Regulations, Department of Health Services, MS 0015, 1501 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 997413, Sacramento, CA 95899-7413. It is requested but not required that written comments sent by mail or hand-delivered be submitted in triplicate; or
2. By fax transmission: (916) 440-7714; or

3. By email to [regulation@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:regulation@dhs.ca.gov) (it is requested that email transmissions of comments, particularly those with attachments, contain the regulation package identifier "R-15-97" in the subject line to facilitate timely identification and review of the comment), or

4. By using the "Making Comments on DHS Regulations" link on the Department website at <http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/regulations/>.

All comments, including email or fax transmissions, should include the author's name and U.S. Postal Service mailing address in order for the Department to provide copies of any notices for proposed changes to the regulation text on which additional comments may be solicited.

INQUIRIES: Inquiries regarding the substance of the proposed regulations described in this notice may be directed to Glenn Takeoka, Chief, Environmental Health Services Section, at (916) 449-5693.

All other inquiries concerning the action described in this notice may be directed to Don Lee of the Office of Regulations, at (916) 440-7673, or to the designated backup contact person, Linda Tutor, at (916) 440-7695.

**CONTACTS: In any inquiries or written comments, please identify the action by using the Department regulation package identifier, R-15-97.**

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND TEXT OF REGULATIONS: The Department has prepared and has available for public review an initial statement of reasons for the proposed regulations, all the information upon which the proposed regulations are based, and the text of the proposed regulations. The Office of Regulations, at the address noted above, will be the location of public records, including reports, documentation, and other material related to the proposed regulations (rulemaking file). In addition, a copy of the final statement of reasons (when prepared) will be available upon request from the Office of Regulations.

Materials regarding the action described in this notice (including this public notice, the regulation text, and the initial statement of reasons) that are available via the Internet may be accessed at <http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/regulations/> and then clicking on the "Select CDHS regulations" button.

In order to request a copy of this public notice, the regulation text, and the initial statement of reasons be mailed to you, please call (916) 440-7695 (or California Relay at 711/1-800-735-2929), or email [regulation@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:regulation@dhs.ca.gov), or write to the Office of Regulations at the address noted above. Upon specific request, these documents will be made available in Braille, large print, and audiocassette or computer disk.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT: The full text of any regulation which is changed or modified from the express terms of the proposed action will be

made available by the Department's Office of Regulations at least 15 days prior to the date on which the Department adopts, amends, or repeals the resulting regulation.

**FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATE:**

- A. Fiscal Effect on Local Government: \$992 to \$9,920 related to criminal background check of camp counselors for campgrounds operated by local governments.
- B. Fiscal Effect on State Government: \$210,080 to \$274,080 related to criminal background checks by the Department of Justice for camp counselors.
- C. Fiscal Effect on Federal Funding of State Programs: None.
- D. All cost impacts, known to the Department at the time the notice of proposed action was submitted to the Office of Administrative Law, that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action: An average cost of \$992 annually related to criminal background check of camp counselors for campgrounds.
- E. Other Nondiscretionary Cost or Savings Imposed on Local Agencies: None.

**DETERMINATIONS:** The Department has determined that the regulations would not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts, nor are there any costs for which reimbursement is required by Part 7 (commencing with section 17500) of Division 4 of the Government Code.

The Department has made an initial determination that the regulations would not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

The Department has determined that the regulations will not significantly affect the following:

1. The creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California. The requirements summarized above should not have any affect in this area in that there would not be any significant change in camp requirements or personnel needed for compliance with the proposed regulations.
2. The creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California. The impact of these regulations will be insignificant.
3. The expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California.

The Department has determined that the regulations would affect small businesses. The amendments in this proposal will have a minimal effect on small businesses. The

criminal background checks for camp counselors is presently required by the organized camps and is an established industry standard.

The Department has determined that the regulations will have no impact on housing costs.

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS:** In accordance with Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(13) the Department must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Department or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Department would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

No hearing has been scheduled; however any interested person or his or her duly authorized representative may request in writing, no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period, a public hearing pursuant to Government Code section 11346.8.

For individuals with disabilities, the Department will provide assistive services such as sign-language interpretation, real-time captioning, note takers, reading or writing assistance, and conversion of public hearing materials into Braille, large print, audiocassette, or computer disk. To request such services or copies in an alternate format, please call or write: Don Lee, Office of Regulations, MS 0015, P.O. Box 997413, Sacramento, CA 95899-7413, voice (916) 440-7673 and/or California Relay 711/1-800-735-2929. Note: The range of assistive services available may be limited if requests are received less than ten business days prior to a public hearing.

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

R-15-97

Dated:

Sandra Shewry  
Director